GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6882
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
LINKING OF INDIAN MISSIONS THROUGH RADIO COMMUNICATIONS
C. SREENIVAASAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a). the number of Indian missions abroad linked to the Ministry of External Affairs through advanced radio communications; and

(b). the reasons therefor and the success of the project?

Answer

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MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) A High Frequency Radio Communication (HFRC) network had been established to link the Ministry of External Affairs with 22 Indian missions abroad, out of 27 missions initially identified for the project.

(b) The HFRC network had been established to provide stand-by arrangements for emergency communications between India and the target missions, to be used if and when normal communications channels are disrupted. The project, however, has had limited success and its performance has remained much below optimal levels. The Ministry has decided, on the basis of recommendations by a high-level expert group, to close the project and replace it by a more cost-effective and efficient system of satellite-based communications.